(c) Yes, Sir. There is an urgent need to rationalize and simplify tax structure which is easy to administer and compliance. This would encourage food processing sector. Besides rationalization and simplification certain other measures like Tax Holiday will benefit the food processing sector. Such tax holiday already exists under the income Tax Act 1961 and as per provisions of Sub-Section 11(a) of Section 80-1b of the Income Tax Act a deduction from profits upto specified amounts is allowed in the case of an undertaking deriving profit from the business of processing, preservation and packaging of fruits or vegetables. The Finance (No. 2) Bill, 2009 proposes to also extend investment-linked tax incentive by way of insertion of a new section 35AD in the Income Tax Act, 1961 to the business of setting up and operating cold chain facilities for specified products and to the business of setting up and operating warehousing facilities for storage of agricultural produce.

(d) Yes, Sir. Integrated Food Law *i.e.* Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 has been notified on 24.8.2006. The act will enable in removing multiplicity of food laws and regulatory agencies and will provide single window to food processing sector. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is the nodal Ministry of administration and implementation of the Act.

Allocation for National Nutrition Mission

*43. SHRI MOINUL HASSAN : Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) The budgetary allocation for the National Nutrition Mission for the year 2002-03 and 2009-10;

(b) whether Government is aware that if women are made healthy, children, the future of our country, would be bright and healthy; and

(c) if so, the reasons Governmentus failure to treat the National Nutrition Mission in priority sector?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA TIRATH) : (a) to (c) The Government accounts high priority to overall issue of malnutrition, and, particularly, in respect of children, adolescent girls and women. With this in view, Government has universalized ICDS scheme *w.e.f.* December, 2008 with increased budgetary allocation in 2009-10 for expansion of Anganwadi centres as well as for higher nutritional norms for providing supplementary nutrition to the children below 6 years of age and pregnant and lactating mothers. There is also a proposal to universalize the scheme for empowerment of adolescent girls by merging the existing schemes of Kishori Shakti Yojana (KSY) and Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG). Besides, there are other programmes such as National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), Mid-day Meal, Rajiv Gandhi Mission for Drinking Water and Total Sanitation Campaign etc. which are being implemented and these impact on improving the nutritional status.

A National Council on Indiaus Nutrition Challenges under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister has been consituted in October 2008 for giving policy directions and for reviewing & achieving effective coordination amongst various programmes.

A Budget provision of Rs. 1.00 crore was made for the year 2002-03 and 2009-10.